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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Tel Aviv Bureau

FROM:

Chief, Operations Group

EXTENSION

3-5991

NO.

DATE

January 1988

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

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OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

C/MOD

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C/Computer Operations

12.

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15.

Retain/Destroy

FORM 1-79

610

USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

FBIS-6010-88
4 February 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Tel Aviv Bureau -- January 1988

I. GENERAL

Disturbances continued in the territories through January despite strong Israeli measures. In addition to the officially declared "policy of blows," which calls for the physical abuse of particularly violent demonstrators, the government deported four "senior activists" to Lebanon on the 13th for their part in the unrest. Fearing a "new wave of disturbances" and attempting "to stem the deterioration of its image," however, the government "postponed" the deportation of another five on the 27th. A general, if sporadic, commercial strike in the territories throughout January and the continuing increase in the number of Palestinians sentenced for unrest related activities held forth little hope for improvement in the situation. Defense Minister Rabin voiced government pessimism over the situation in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on 1 February when he spoke of the unrest continuing for "months to come."

Linked by many in the Middle East to the continuing unrest, a new move by the United States to restart the peace process had drawn little positive response by the end of the month but also no unequivocal rejections. Some possible movement was seen in an apparent policy shift by Shamir, who, in remarks later downplayed by a spokesman from his office, suggested that the territories may be negotiable in Israeli-Jordanian talks.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

The Soviet consular delegation received visa extensions on the 12th, and in a move viewed by Israel as reciprocity, the USSR announced on the 19th that it would permit the visit of an Israeli delegation to Moscow.

B. Lateral Services

At the request of the BBC Newsroom, the bureau is filing all unrest related items at priority or above precedence to the BBC and headquarters.

C. Technical

[redacted] STAT

III. ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

Bureau Chief [redacted] left Tel Aviv on the 24th for a month's R & R in the United States, with brief TDY visits at London, Nicosia, and headquarters. STAT

IV. VISITS

[redacted] deputy chief of FED, visited the bureau 14-17 January. STAT

V. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Deputy Chief [redacted] was reelected to the school board of the American International School at the school's annual general meeting. He will serve on the board until the end of his tour in the summer of 1989. STAT

[redacted] STAT
Acting Chief, FBIS Tel Aviv Bureau

cc: JN, NC
Attachments: Production Report